

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. 09/932,171 Confirmation No.:
Applicant : JOHN R. FIRTH & ANTHONY R. PEREZ.
Filing Date MAR 29 2004 08/17/2001
Title : DISPOSABLE SELF-SHIELDING ASPIRATING SYRINGE
Group Art Unit 1755
Examiner : Unassigned
Docket No. : 706737.31
Customer No. : 34313

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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APR 05 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the items identified in this Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") are brought to the attention of the Office. The items are listed on the attached form PTO-1449 and copies are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The items identified in this IDS may or may not be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56. The submission thereof by Applicant is not to be construed as an admission that any such patent, publication or other information referred to therein is material or considered to be material (37 CFR § 1.97(h)), or even qualifies as "prior art" under 35 USC § 102 with respect to this invention unless specifically designated by Applicant as such.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR §1.8)

I hereby certify, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.8, that I have reasonable basis to expect that that this paper or fee (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) would be mailed or transmitted on or before the date indicated with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: March 25, 2004

Karen Johnson
Karen Johnson

DOCSOC1:148980.1

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /M.M./

Applicant : JOHN R. FIRTH & ANTHONY R. PEREZ
Appl. No. : 09/932,171
Examiner : Unassigned
Docket No. : 706737.31

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FILING PROVISION:

☒ This IDS is believed to be timely in that it is being submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(b), that is (1) within three months of the filing date of the application, which is not a continued prosecution application filed under § 1.53(d); or (2) within three months of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR § 1.491; or (3) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or (4) before the mailing of a first Office action after filing a request for continued examination under § 1.114. Thus, no fee is required.

☐ However, if the undersigned is in error in this regard, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office consider this IDS as filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c), if applicable, and charge the fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to the deposit account referenced below.

☒ However, if the undersigned is in error in this regard, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office consider this IDS as filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c), if applicable, and a statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e) is included below, thus no fee is required.

☐ This IDS is being submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(c), that is after mailing of a first Office action on the merits, but before a Final Action under 37 CFR § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR § 1.311.

☐ The fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is submitted herewith.

☐ A statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e) is included below, thus no fee is required. In the event that this IDS is not received before a Final Action or a Notice of Allowance, then Applicant respectfully requests that the Office consider the filing of these papers to be submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(d) and charge the fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to the deposit account below.

☐ This IDS is being submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(d), that is after a Final Action under 37 CFR § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR § 1.311, but before payment of the issue fee. A statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e) is included below. The fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is submitted herewith.

Applicant : JOHN R. FIRTH & ANTHONY R. PEREZ
Appl. No. : 09/932,171
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Docket No. : 706737.31

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(e):

- ☐ Each item contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.
- ☒ No item contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

PAYMENT AND/OR AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE FEES:

- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the above fee(s).
- ☐ Please charge _____ to Deposit Account No. **15-0665** for the above fee(s).
- ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required by the filing of these papers, and to credit any overpayment to Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe's Deposit Account No. **15-0665**.

Respectfully submitted,

ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP

Dated: March 25, 2004By: Samuel B. Stone
Reg. No. 19,297

ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP
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949/567-6700 Telephone
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Please type a plus sign (+) in this box ☐

PTO/SB/08A (05-03)

Approved for use through 05/31/2003. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

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|-------|---|----|---|------------------------|---------------|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Application Number | 09/932,171 |
| | | | | Filing Date | 08/17/2001 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | John R. Firth |
| | | | | Group Art Unit | 1755 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Unassigned |
| | | | | Attorney Docket Number | 706737.31 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Document | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publications of Cited Documents MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--|--|---|
| | | Number | Kind Code ² | | | |
| | 1 | 5,242,416 | A | Hutson | 09/07/1993 | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publications of Cited Documents MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
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OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials ¹ | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
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| Examiner Signature | DOCSOC1:148978.1 /Manuel Mendez/ | Date Considered | 03/11/2008 |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------|

¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

²Unique citation designation number. ³See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ⁴Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.). ⁵For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent documents. ⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁷Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /M.M./